

REMARKS

Claim 9 remains in the application and has been amended hereby.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 9 under 35 USC 102, as being anticipated by Peterson '020.

Features of the terminal device (10 in Fig. 2) according to the present invention are a detector configured to detect whether a portable device (50 in Fig. 2) with a storage medium (54 in Fig. 4) is connected to the terminal device. Further, when the detector detects that the portable device is connected to the terminal device, a first controller updates attributes of information stored in the storage medium of the portable device from an unavailable state to an available state after the accounting points are updated correctly. See Fig. 14 of the present application, for example.

Claim 9 has been amended to recite these features of the present application.

Looking at Peterson '020 we see that there is no detachable portable device having a storage medium included in the terminal device, therefore, Peterson '020 cannot use the first controller to update attributes of information stored in the storage medium of the portable device. Peterson '020 in Fig. 3 is merely teaching a terminal device.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 9 is not anticipated by Peterson '020.

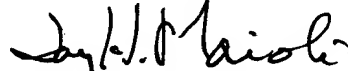
Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 9 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Peterson '020 in view of Goldman.

The rejection of claim 9 over Peterson '020 has been addressed above and, because there are no features in Goldman that somehow could be combined with Peterson '020 and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that claim 9 is patentably distinct over Peterson '020 in view of Goldman.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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